(b) For distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL), Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Above Poverty Line (APL) ration card holders, subsidized Central Issue Prices (CIP) communicated by Central Government to States and Union Territories are as follows:

	AAY	BPL	APL
Rice (Rs./Qtl)	300	565	830

At the above CIPs under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), subsidy, *i.e.* the difference between economic cost of rice to Food Corporation of India and these CIPs, provided by the Government of India for the allocated quantities of rice during 2009-10 is as follows:

	AAY	BPL	APL
Rice (Rs./Qtl.)	1593.71	1328.71	1063.71

Some of the States / Union Territory Governments, however, charge issue prices lower than CIPs by further subsidizing the issue prices. In such cases share of subsidy of concerned State Government would be the difference between CIP and actual issue price charged from ration card holders at fair price shops.

Delay in disposal of audit case by CMFA

3302. SHRI SHIVPRATAP SINGH:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been delay in the disposal of audit case concerning procurement of paddy till 2006-07 by the Chhattisgarh Marketing Federation and Administration;

(b) whether the State Government has demanded additional burden of expenditure thereon to be compensated; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No. Sir. Audit in its Para No. 5.2.1 contained in its Report No 16 of 2006 regarding excess expenditure of Rs. 1047.34 crore by Chhattisgarh Government during the period 2000-05 had observed that the procurement of paddy in Chhattisgarh under the scheme of Decentralized Procurement (DCP) was much in excess of the capacity of custom milling of paddy due to the absence of project plan for procurement, storage and custom milling. Thus, the milling of paddy was delayed from 21 to 30 months, which resulted in excess overhead expenditure by the State Government, mainly on account of interest and driage loss.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

This Department in the Action Taken Note sent in July, 2007 did not agree with the conclusion drawn by the Audit, as all the paddy offered by the farmers was required to be procured as per the Government's policy on Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations. The milling capacity in the State has improved substantially to 7.42 lakh tonnes per month over the years. These efforts have led to reducing dependence for rice on Punjab and Haryana and also led to increase in milling capacity and increase in employment generation in the State. Audit has accepted the above position, as it had made no further comments.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Functioning of consumer courts

3303. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of consumer courts which are working in different States and the details of data with regard to pending, disposed off and appealed cases against the order to the Supreme and High Courts after National Appellate Tribunal; and

(b) whether there is any demand for more consumer courts and additional National Appellate Tribunal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) A total of 35 State Commissions and 621 District Fora have been established in different States/UTs. The details of the data as informed by National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), which has administrative control over all State Commissions as per provisions of Consumer Protection Act with regard to the filing, disposal and pending of cases is enclosed as Statement-I and II collectively. (*See* below) :

As regards Appeal filed against the order of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission before the Supreme Court and the High Court, the data is not available with NCDRC.

(b) In some of the districts, additional District Fora are also functioning. Additional Benches of the State Commissions are functioning in the following States:

(a)	Gujarat	-	03 Additional Benches
(b)	Maharashtra	-	Circuit Bench at Nagpur & Aurangabad
(c)	Uttar Pradesh	-	01 Additional Bench
(d)	West Bengal	-	01 Additional Bench
(e)	Madhya Pradesh	-	01 Additional Bench (non-functional)

Section 9 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 provides that a Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum, to be known as the "District Forum", be established by the State Government in each district of the State by notification. It further provides that the State Government may, if it deems fit, establish more than one District Forum in a district.